IN NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 3 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

LINCOLN, Neb., March 15, 2002 - Nebraska feedlots, with capacities of 1,000 or more head, contained 2.3 million cattle on feed on March 1, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The inventory was down 3 percent from last year and slightly below March 1, 2000.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 370,000 head, up 19 percent from 2001 but 5 percent below 2000.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 350,000 head, unchanged from last year but 20 percent below February two years ago. Other disappearance during February totaled 10,000 head compared with 10,000 head during February 2001 and February 2000.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 2 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.52 million head on March 1, 2002. The inventory was down 2 percent from the 11.70 million head on March 1, 2001 but 2 percent above March 1, 2000.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.81 million, 14 percent above 2001 but 4 percent below 2000.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.80 million, 3 percent above 2001 but 12 percent below 2000. Other disappearance totaled 63,000 during February, 22 percent below 2001 and 19 percent below 2000.

Access the National publication for this release at: http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/pct-bbc/2002/cofd0302.pdf